

JOINT NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION

by the

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 9 (WTR-5)
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency
P.O. Box 339
Window Rock, AZ 86515

On National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permits to Discharge
Pollutants to Waters of the United States

Public Notice #: AZ-07-W-07 Publication Date: April 5, 2007

The Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9, San Francisco, California, in cooperation with the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency, is jointly issuing the following notice of proposed action under the Clean Water Act.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 9, San Francisco, California, has received complete applications for reissuance of the NPDES permits for the following facilities:

Navajo Tribal Utility Authority – Shiprock Wastewater Treatment Facility
NPDES Permit No. NN0020621

Description:

The NTUA- Shiprock wastewater treatment plant is located in Shiprock, approximately 2 miles northwest of the intersection of Highway 666 and Highway 64 in San Juan County, New Mexico, within the northeastern portion of the Navajo Nation at latitude 35° 52' 37.8" North and longitude 111° 25' 01.4" West (Township 30N, Range 18W, Section 25). Pretreatment at the entrance works includes a bar screen/comminutor, a grit chamber and two trickling filters with a center column and distribution arms. The facility includes primary clarification, trickling filter, secondary sedimentation, and ultraviolet disinfection. In the event that the UV disinfection system is under repair, chlorination along with dechlorination would be employed as a backup disinfection system. Effluent is discharged from Outfall No. 001 into receiving waters named the San Juan River in Segment 2401 of the San Juan River basin. Any sampling and monitoring under the proposed permit shall be performed at Outfall No. 001

Navajo Tribal Utility Authority – Kayenta Wastewater Treatment Facility
NPDES Permit No. NN00240281

Description:

The NTUA-Kayenta wastewater treatment lagoons are located two miles north of the junction of Highways 160 and 163 in Kayenta, Arizona, within the north central portion of the Navajo Nation. The facility serves a population of about 6,144, receiving only domestic sewage with a design flow of 0.9 million gallons per day (MGD). Treatment includes barscreening, six facultative lagoons operated in series and

disinfection by chlorination. Effluent is discharged from an 8-inch pipe to Outfall No. 001, to Laguna Wash, a tributary to the San Juan River. Any sampling and monitoring under the proposed permit shall be performed at Outfall No. 001 prior to discharge.

On the basis of preliminary review of the requirements of the Clean Water Act (“CWA”), as amended, and implementing regulations, the Regional Administrator, Region 9 Environmental Protection Agency, proposes to issue NPDES permits to the above applicants, subject to certain effluent limitations and special conditions. Authority to enforce, modify, reissue and terminate these permits will be transferred to the Navajo Nation EPA upon final delegation of the NPDES program.

The Administrative Records, including the permit applications, draft permits, fact sheets, comments received (if any), and other relevant documents and data sent by the applicant for the permits, are available for review and may be obtained by calling or writing the contacts listed below. Interested persons may submit written comments on the draft permit during the public comment period to contact listed below. All comments or objections received within 30 days from the date of this notice will be retained and considered in the formulation of the final determinations regarding the permit.

Upon issuance of a final permit decision and response to comments, the USEPA will notify the applicant and persons who submitted written comments or requested notice of the final permit decision. If no comments are submitted on the draft permit, the final permit will become effective three (3) days from the date of mailing. If comments are submitted on the draft permit, the final permit will become effective 33 days from the date of mailing, unless a petition is filed with the Environmental Appeals Board (EAB) to review any conditions of the final permit. Persons filing a request for review must have filed comments on the draft permit or participated in a public hearing.

When public interest warrants, USEPA may schedule a public hearing or may grant an extension of the comment period for the submittal of comments or objections.

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